

John Boehner  
Chairman  
8th District, Ohio

*House Meets at 10:00 a.m. for Legislative Business*

*Anticipated Floor Action:*

**H.R. 1274—National Institute of Standards and Technology Authorization Act**

**H.R. 1273—National Science Foundation Authorization Act**

**H.R. 1275—Civilian Space Authorization Act**

**H.R. 1271—FAA Research, Engineering, and Development Authorization Act**



**H.R. 1274—National Institute of Standards and Technology**

**Floor Situation:** The House will consider H.R. 1274 as its first order of business today. Yesterday, the Rules Committee granted an open rule that provides for one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Science Committee. The rule waives House rules which require that a committee report be available for three days before consideration. It also makes in order a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute as base text and grants priority in recognition to members who had their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

**Summary:** H.R. 1274 authorizes \$609 million for FY 1998 and \$628 million for FY 1999 for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the Office of Technology and Policy, \$92 million less than the president's request and \$27 million more than the FY 1997 level. The bill also authorizes (1) \$335 million over two years for the Advanced Technology Program (a \$75 million decrease over two years), (2) \$50 million for building the Advanced Metrology Laboratory, and (3) \$565 million for the NIST laboratory functions, a five percent increase over FY 1997. CBO estimates that enactment will result in discretionary outlays of \$1.2 billion from FY 1998 to FY 2002. The bill was introduced by Ms. Morella and was ordered reported by the Science Committee by voice vote.

**Views (on the overall bill):**

**Republican Leadership:** Supports  
**Chairman Sensenbrenner:** Supports  
**Clinton Administration:** Conditionally Supports

**Amendments:** At press time, the *Legislative Digest* was aware of the following amendments to H.R. 1274:

**Mr. Brown (CA)** may offer an amendment to increase the authorization for the Advanced Technology Program to \$225 million in FY 1998, the same level that was authorized for FY 1997. *Staff Contact: Mike Rodemeyer, x5-4538*

**Mr. Coburn** may offer an amendment to eliminate the authorizations for the Advanced Technology Program and the Manufacturing Extension Partnership. Currently, the bill authorizes a total of \$564 million over two years for these programs. *Staff Contact: Andrea Miles, x5-2701*

**Mr. Coburn** may offer an amendment to prohibit the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Programs to be extended beyond their authorized six-year life-span. *Staff Contact: Andrea Miles, x5-2701*

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #10, Pt. IV, April 22, 1997.



## **H.R. 1273—National Science Foundation Authorization Act**

**Floor Situation:** The House will consider H.R. 1273 after it completes consideration of H.R. 1274. Yesterday, the Rules Committee granted an open rule providing for one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Science Committee. It makes in order a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute as base text and grants priority in recognition to members who had their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

**Summary:** H.R. 1273 authorizes \$7.1 billion over two years for the National Science Foundation (NSF), a seven percent increase over last year and a \$1.4 million increase over the president's FY 1998 request. The largest sum, \$5.3 billion, is authorized for basic research and related activities, which includes support for mathematical, physical, biological, and engineering sciences. The bill also authorizes two new programs: \$25 million for the Polar Cap Observatory (PCO) and \$9 million for the Millimeter Array radio telescope. Finally, the bill prohibits former grantees who have received earmarked funds from reapplying for grants for another five years and prohibits any funding for the president's Next Generation Internet program. CBO estimates that enactment will result in discretionary outlays of \$7 billion from FY 1998 to FY 2002. The bill was introduced by Mr. Schiff and was ordered reported by the Science Committee by voice vote.

**Views (on the overall bill):**

**Republican Leadership:** Supports  
**Chairman Sensenbrenner:** Supports  
**Clinton Administration:** Supports

**Amendments:** At press time, the *Legislative Digest* was aware of the following amendments to H.R. 1273:

**Mr. Coburn** may offer an amendment (#1) to prohibit the use of funds for the United Nation's U.S. Man and the Biosphere program, which studies the relationship between humans and ecosystems. He notes that federal funds have been used to support the program even though it has not been authorized by Congress. A similar prohibition is included in H.R. 1274. *Staff Contact: Andrea Miles, x5-2701*

**Ms. Jackson-Lee** may offer an amendment (#2) to allow laboratories and research programs to donate surplus equipment to public school's science and math programs and requires the NSF to establish a directory of federal laboratories. *Contact: x5-3816*

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #10, Pt. II, April 21, 1997.



## **H.R. 1275—Civilian Space Authorization Act**

**Floor Situation:** The House will consider H.R. 1275 after it completes consideration of H.R. 1273. Yesterday, the Rules Committee granted an open rule that provides for one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Science Committee. The rule waives House rules which require that a committee report be available for three days before consideration. It also makes in order a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute as base text. The rule grants priority in recognition to members who had their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

**Summary:** H.R. 1275 authorizes \$27.7 billion over two years for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Office of Commercial Space Transportation (OCST), and the Office of Space Commerce, a \$14.2 million increase over two years and a three percent increase over the president's FY 1998 request. The bill also (1) authorizes \$647 million for development of the X-33 reusable launch vehicle; (2) requires the president to establish a policy to deal with delays of Russian components for the International Space Station (ISS); (3) authorizes \$16.8 million for programs to monitor and study potentially dangerous asteroids and comets; (4) prohibits former grantees who have received earmarked federal funds from reapplying for grants for five years; and (5) authorizes \$2.8 billion for the Mission to Planet Earth global climate study. CBO estimates that enactment will result in discretionary outlays of \$27.8 billion over five years. The bill was introduced by Mr. Rohrabacher and was ordered reported by the Science Committee by voice vote.

**Views (on the overall bill):**

**Republican Leadership:** Supports  
**Chairman Sensenbrenner:** Supports  
**Clinton Administration:** Conditionally Supports

**Amendments:** At press time, the *Legislative Digest* was aware of the following amendments to H.R. 1275:

**Ms. Jackson-Lee** may offer an amendment (#1) to classify NASA employees as “essential government employees” during a federal government shutdown. **Contact: x5-3816**

**Ms. Jackson-Lee** may offer an amendment (#2) to allow NASA to pay for tuition for employees to attend the International Space University, except when the programs are held outside of the United States. Currently, the bill prohibits NASA from paying for any tuition at the university. **Contact: x5-3816**

**Ms. Jackson-Lee** may offer an amendment (#3) to increase funding for historically black colleges and universities from \$98 million to \$114 million. The member argues that the authorization earmarked in the bill for historically black colleges and universities currently decreases the authorization for other minority colleges and universities that are not historically black. **Contact: x5-3816**

**Mr. Roemer** may offer an amendment (#4) to expel Russia from participating in the International Space Station effort by (1) requiring NASA to terminate all contracts with Russia and (2) forbidding the U.S. from entering new space station partnerships with Russia. Amendment supporters argue that the delay of Russian components increases the cost of the ISS, which the federal government cannot afford to support. **Staff Contact: Amy Bonhan, x5-4426**

**Mr. Roemer** and **Mr. Ganske** may offer an amendment (#5) to terminate the International Space Station by repealing the two-year \$4.2 billion authorization and authorizing \$500 million for project termination costs. They argue that the space station is too expensive at a time when the federal government should focus on balancing the budget. **Staff Contact: Amy Bonhan, x5-4426**

**Mr. Rohrabacher** may offer an amendment (#6) to (1) strike language which prohibits NASA from using funds to transfer space station responsibilities; (2) expand the list of types of commercial data NASA may purchase to include data regarding asteroids and other planet’s moons; and (3) amend the Unitary Wind Tunnel Plan Act to allow the Defense Department to study the aeronautics of traveling at hypersonic speeds (i.e., speeds greater than five times speed of sound). **Contact: x5-2415**

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #10, Pt. III, April 22, 1997.



## H.R. 1271—FAA Research, Engineering, and Development Authorization Act

**Floor Situation:** The House will consider H.R. 1271 after it completes consideration of H.R. 1275. Yesterday, the Rules Committee granted an open rule providing one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Science Committee. The rule waives section 306 of the 1974 Budget Act, which prohibits the House from considering legislation within the Budget Committee's jurisdiction unless the Budget Committee reports it. It also makes in order a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute as base text and grants priority in recognition to members who had their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

**Summary:** H.R. 1271 authorizes \$672.4 million over the next three years for the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) research, engineering, and development programs. The bill also (1) mandates that the president's annual FAA budget request include all basic and applied research and development activities within a single budget category; (2) requires the FAA Administrator's national aviation research plan to highlight the research and development activities which promote technology sharing among government, industry, and academia; (3) directs the administrator to establish a grant program for researchers at undergraduate institutions which involve their undergraduate students in research relevant to the FAA; and (4) expresses the sense of Congress that the FAA should give priority to correcting all two-digit date-related problems in its computer systems to ensure continued operation in the year 2000. CBO estimates that enactment will result in discretionary outlays of \$217.4 million in FY 1998, \$224 million in FY 1999, and \$231 million in FY 2000. H.R. 1271 was introduced by Mrs. Morella and was reported by the Science Committee by voice vote.

### Views (on the overall bill):

<b>Republican Leadership:</b>	Supports
<b>Chairman Sensenbrenner:</b>	Supports
<b>Clinton Administration:</b>	Supports

**Amendments:** At press time, the *Legislative Digest* was aware of the following amendments to H.R. 1271:

**Ms. Jackson-Lee** may offer an amendment (#1) to specifically permit funding for undergraduate research grants to go to historically black colleges and universities. Currently, the bill does not make such a distinction. **Contact: x5-3816**

**Ms. Jackson-Lee** may offer an amendment (#2) to strike the requirement that all FAA budgets include a single research and development category. The member argues that a single research and development category will limit the president's ability to develop a budget. **Contact: x5-3816**

**Ms. Jackson-Lee** may offer an amendment (#3) to strike language in the bill which prohibits the FAA from funding programs that are not specifically authorized by the bill. **Contact: x5-3816**

**Ms. Jackson-Lee** may offer an amendment (#4) to strike language in the bill which prohibits the FAA from funding lobbying activities. The member argues that the broad limitation on lobbying

activities will limit the Transportation Department's ability to advise Congress and the public of its views on pending legislation. **Contact: x5-3816**

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #10, April 18, 1997.



PLEASE NOTE: UNDER AN OPEN RULE, MEMBERS MAY OFFER ENTIRELY NEW AMENDMENTS TO A BILL AT ANY TIME, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY HAVE BEEN PRE-PRINTED IN THE *CONGRESSIONAL RECORD*.

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